

Serial No. 09/987,194
Docket No. 206-019-01
LIN.003

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REMARKS:

Claims 1-8 and 23 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courteous and productive personal interviews of September 4, 6, and 12, 2007, in which the specification, claims, and drawings were discussed. Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that the case would be allowable if claim 23 and the specification were amended.

The specification and claim 23 have been amended in a manner believed fully responsive to all points raised by the Examiner, thereby to pass the claims to allowance. No new matter has been added.

It is noted that the claim amendments herein are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims, or for any statutory requirements of patentability.

Further, it is noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-8 and 23, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local


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telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic
or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees or to credit
any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,

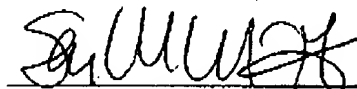


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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I certify that I transmitted via facsimile to (571) 273-8300 the enclosed
Supplemental Amendment to Examiner O'Connor on September 12, 2007.



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